

Application No.: ~~11/553,812~~
Amendment Date: 26 Jun 2008
Reply to Office Action of: 28 Mar 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule, comprising a the sequence of nucleotides that encodes a the rhesus monkey BRS-3 (rhBRS-3) protein as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 2 (Original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.

Claim 3 (Original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is mRNA.

Claim 4 (Original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is cDNA.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the sequence of nucleotides comprises a the sequence of nucleotides as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): An ~~expression~~ expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A ~~An isolated~~ host cell comprising the vector of claim 6.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): A subcellular membrane fraction obtained from the host cell of claim 7 which contains recombinant ~~rhesus monkey BRS-3~~ rhBRS-3 protein.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): A process for expressing a ~~rhesus monkey BRS-3~~ rhBRS-3 protein in a recombinant host cell, comprising:

- (a) introducing a vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 1 into a suitable host cell; and,
- (b) culturing the host cell under conditions which allow expression of said ~~rhesis monkey BRS-3~~ rhBRS-3 protein.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): An isolated and purified rhesus monkey ~~BRS-3~~ bombesin receptor subtype-3 (rhBRS-3) polypeptide comprising a the sequence of amino acids as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A method for identifying compounds that modulate ~~rhesus monkey bombesin receptor subtype-3 (BRS-3) expression~~ rhBRS-3 activity, comprising contacting a test compound with the rhBRS-3 protein polypeptide of claim 10, and determining whether the test compound ~~interacts with rhesus monkey bombesin receptor subtype-3~~ modulates activity of the BRS-3 polypeptide.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A method for determining whether a substance is capable of binding to ~~rhesus monkey BRS-3~~ (rhBRS-3) comprising:

- (a) providing test cells by transfecting isolated cells with the expression vector of claim 6;
- (b) exposing the test cells to the substance;
- (c) measuring the amount of binding of the substance to rhBRS-3; and,
- (d) comparing the amount of binding of the substance to rhBRS-3 in the test cells with the amount of binding of the substance to control cells that have not been transfected with rhBRS-3.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): A method of identifying a substance which modulates rhBRS-3 receptor activity, comprising:

- (a) ~~combining~~ contacting a test substance in the presence and absence of the ~~rhesus monkey~~ rhBRS-3 protein of claim 10 with a test substance; and,
- (b) ~~measuring and comparing~~ the effect of the test substance ~~in the presence and absence of~~ on the activity of the rhBRS-3 ~~receptor~~ protein.

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A method for determining whether a substance is a potential agonist or antagonist of rhBRS-3 comprising:

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- (a) transfecting or transforming isolated cells with the expression vector of claim 6, resulting in test cells;
- (b) allowing the test cells to grow for a time sufficient to allow rhBRS-3 to be expressed;
- (c) exposing the cells to a labeled ligand of rhBRS-3 in the presence and in the absence of the substance; and,
- (d) measuring the binding of the labeled ligand to rhBRS-3; where if the amount of binding of the labeled ligand is less in the presence of the substance than in the absence of the substance, then the substance is a potential agonist or antagonist of rhBRS-3.